

IN THE CLAIMS:

1 . - 6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A drive unit driving mechanism having a drive unit for playing back disks, a drive base for supporting the drive unit, and drive base movement means that allows the drive base to move into a space that is produced through division of a disk holder that is capable of storing a plurality of disks, comprising:

an elastic member that elastically supports the drive unit on the drive base; and

a floating lock mechanism that is driven by the drive base movement means and switches between a floating state where the drive unit is supported by only the elastic member and a locked state where the drive unit is fixed to the drive base,

wherein the drive unit is provided with a turntable where a disk to be played back is mounted and a disk clamping mechanism that is driven by the drive base movement means and which sandwiches the disk to be played back between the disk clamping mechanism and the turntable; and

a single drive source that allows the serial operation of the drive base movement means, the floating lock mechanism and the disk clamp mechanism is provided.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The drive unit driving mechanism according to claim 7 [[or 8]], wherein the drive base can be turned by the drive base movement means.

10. (Currently Amended) The drive unit driving mechanism according to ~~any one of~~ ~~claims 7 to 9~~ claim 7, wherein the floating lock mechanism comprises a slide lock plate provided so as to be capable of performing a sliding movement on the drive base in order to reduce the height of the elastic member by biasing the drive unit toward the drive base side in the locked state and restore the height of the elastic member by releasing the drive unit in the floating state.

11. (Currently Amended) The drive unit driving mechanism according to claim 10, wherein the disk clamping mechanism comprises a clamer arm that changes position in accordance with the movement of the slide lock plate and a clamer ring that contacts and moves away from the disk in accordance with the change in position of the clamer arm. A drive unit driving mechanism having a drive unit for playing back disks, a drive base for supporting the drive unit, and drive base movement means for moving the drive base into a space that is produced through division of a disk holder that is capable of storing a plurality of disks, comprising:

an elastic member that elastically supports the drive unit on the drive base; and

a floating lock mechanism that is driven by the drive base movement means and which switches between a floating state where the drive unit is supported by only the elastic member and a locked state where the drive unit is fixed to the drive base,

wherein the floating lock mechanism comprises a slide lock plate that is provided so as to be capable of performing a sliding movement on the drive base in order to reduce the height of the elastic member by biasing the drive unit toward the drive base side in the locked state and restore the height of the elastic member by releasing the drive unit in the floating state;

the drive unit is provided with a turntable where a disk to be played back is mounted and a disk clamping mechanism that is driven by the drive base movement means and which sandwiches the disk to be played back between the disk clamping mechanism and the turntable, and

the disk clamping mechanism comprises a clamer arm that changes position in accordance with the movement of the slide lock plate and a clamer ring that contacts and moves away from the disk in accordance with the change in position of the clamer arm.

12. (Original) The drive unit driving mechanism according to claim 11, wherein single biasing means that biases the drive base and the slide lock plate such that the transition from one to the other of the movement of the drive base and the sliding movement of the slide lock plate is performed continuously is provided.

13. (New) The drive unit driving mechanism according to claim 9, wherein the floating lock mechanism comprises a slide lock plate provided so as to be capable of performing a sliding movement on the drive base in order to reduce the height of the elastic member by biasing the drive unit toward the drive base side in the locked state and restore the height of the elastic member by releasing the drive unit in the floating state.